

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 EPG-02 FAA-00

TRSE-00 OMB-01 L-03 SS-15 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

USIA-06 /058 W

-----045990 140446Z /20

R 140300Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8089

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EAIR, SN, US

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: IMPLICATIONS FOR GOS OF US-UK BILATERAL

REF: A) STATE 155848 B) SINGAPORE 2913 C) STATE 161715

1. EMBOFF BRIEFED SIA MANAGING DIRECTOR LIM CHIN BENG AND DIRECTOR OF PLANNING PETER LAI ON CONTENTS REF A, ALONG SAME LINES AS EARLIER BRIEFING TO SIM (REF B).

2. DURING CONVERSATION, LIM MADE FOLLOWING POINTS:
A. GOS DELEGATION WILL BE CONSIDERABLY LARGER THAN FIVE PERSONS INDICATED REF B. ALSO GOING TO WASHINGTON WILL BE REP FROM ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S CHAMBERS AND AT LEAST ONE ADDITIONAL DCA OFFICIAL, AS WELL AS SIA'S US WEST COAST REP AND SINGAPORE EMBASSY OFFICIALS.

B. SIA IS PREPARING FOR NEGOTIATIONS WITH CANADIANS IF TALKS WITH US BREAK OFF. CP AIR IS REPORTEDLY INTERESTED IN RECIPROCAL VANCOUVER--HONG KONG--SINGAPORE SERVICE.

C. SIA IS NOT INTERESTED IN ALL-CARGO RIGHTS TO THE US. ONLY COMBINATION RIGHTS ARE BEING SOUGHT. OVERALL, GOS
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NEGOTIATING POSITION IS UNCHANGED FROM LAST ROUND.

3. LIM HAD FOLLOWING SPECIFIC QUESTIONS ON US-UK AGREEMENT:

A. ARE THERE FREQUENCY LIMITS ON HK-SIN SERVICE? SIA UNDERSTANDS AGREEMENT PROVIDES FOR ONCE-DAILY SERVICE MAXIMUM.

B. ARE BEYOND RIGHTS FROM SINGAPORE INCLUDED?

(COMMENT: REF C ARRIVED AFTER BRIEFING. LIM SAID HE HAD RELIABLE INFORMATION THAT PAN AM PLANS TO RUN ITS AROUND-THE-WORLD SERVICE THROUGH SINGAPORE THREE TIMES A WEEK IF AGREEMENT WITH GOS IS REACHED. DESPITE REF C, EMBASSY GATHERS THIS WOULD BE POSSIBLE UNDER EXISTING BEYOND RIGHTS AT HONG KONG.)

C. ON SUBJECT OF TARIFFS, LIM ASKED WHETHER MAIN USG THRUST WAS FOR MAINTENANCE OF CARTELIZED FARE STRUCTURE OR FOR MORE ECONOMICAL FLIGHTS. EMBOFF REITERATED DEPT. DESCRIPTION (REF A PARA 5) OF "PRICES PROPERLY RELATED TO COSTS OF EFFICIENT AIRLINES." LIM EXPECTS SUBJECT OF TARIFFS TO BE RAISED THIS ROUND, AND SAID SIA IS WILLING TO FLY WITH EITHER IATA-LEVEL FARES OR CUT-RATE ONES. (COMMENT: HE DID NOT, HOWEVER, MENTION QUALITY OF SIA IN-FLIGHT SERVICE TO BE PROVIDED.)

D. REF A PARA 4A MENTIONS NEW UK RIGHTS FROM HK TO "ADDITIONAL" WEST COAST POINT. CP AIR DOES NOT PRESENTLY FLY HK-US ROUTE; IS BA OR BOAC EXERCISING PRESENT RIGHTS OR ARE THEY UNUSED? EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE WHATEVER INFO DEPT. FEELS CAN APPROPRIATELY BE PASSED ON QUESTIONS A), C) AND D) ABOVE.

4. EMBASSY COMMENT: GOS AND SIA ARE OBVIOUSLY DELIGHTED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WITH WHAT THEY PERCEIVE AS ADDITIONAL BARGAINING CHIPS FOR UPCOMING ROUND OF TALKS. TO PROVIDE BALANCED AGREEMENT, SINGAPOREANS FEEL THEIR ROUTE REQUESTS ARE MATCHED BY OFFERS OF HK-SIN DIRECT FLIGHTS, SINGAPORE STOP FOR PA1 AND PA2, PRESENT PANAM SERVICE AND CARGO RIGHTS FOR FLYING TIGERS. EMBOFF CALLED ON DCA OFFICIAL AFTER TALK WITH LIM AND FOUND HIM ELBOW-DEEP IN NEWSPAPER AND MAGAZINE C IPPINGS ON US-UK PACT. GOS IS DOING ITS HOMEWORK AND SHOULD COME TO WASHINGTON WELL-ARMED--AND CERTAINLY WELL-STAFFED. HOLDRIDGE

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 14-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770250-0389
Format: TEL
From: SINGAPORE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770757/aaaabxhn.tel
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